Charitable Giving Criteria Checklist

1. Does the charity license its content under a Creative Commons license?
   - It is important for a charity to respect the rights of its donors. Creative Commons also has widespread public support.

2. Make sure the charity has 501c (3) status.
   - VolunteerMatch.org can help you find a charity that is legitimate so you can make sure you are not being conned by a crook.

3. Does the website use encryption when collection payment information online?
   - In your browser verify that the connection is secure by looking for a lock in your browser window.

4. Does the charity offer a receipt for your donation?
   - If you make a large donation to a 501c (3) charity, make sure to get a receipt so your donation will be tax deductible.

5. Find out how your donation will be used.
   - If the charity has lots of overhead and administrative costs, you might want to find a new charity.

Example charities that meet this criteria:

- Creative Commons
- American Friends Service Committee
- The EnviroLink Network

Related Resources:

- Charitable Donations: Give or Take?
- VolunteerMatch